

# Saint Michael's Church

## 2020 Advent Wreath Ceremony



Families are needed to participate in the Advent Wreath Ceremony beginning the weekend of November 28. The ceremony includes a family gathering at the lectern, then, as part of the wreath ceremony, one family member reads a prayer while another lights the candle(s).

Advent is a time to re-energize our faith in the Lord in preparation for Christmas. The Advent Wreath Ceremony provides a way to enhance this time of preparation as a family.

Volunteer signup sheets are in the back of the church .

Please note – Covid -19 procedures will be utilized including wearing masks, disposable ceremony aids for each mass and sterilization of surfaces.

### ***THE SYBOLISM OF THE ADVENT WREATH***

*The Advent wreath is part of our long-standing Catholic tradition. The symbolism of the Advent wreath is beautiful. The wreath is made of various evergreens, signifying continuous life. The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul, and the everlasting life found in Christ. The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent. The purple candles in particular symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and goods works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, when the priest also wears rose vestments at Mass; Gaudete Sunday is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over and they are close to Christmas.*